



U.S. Department of Justice

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PRESS RELEASE

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District of Columbia Man Sentenced to Eleven Years Incarceration for Killing Friend in May 2008

Washington, D.C.- Acting United States Attorney Channing Phillips announced today that Allen Randolph, 36, of Washington, D.C., was sentenced on June 8, 2009, to 11 years incarceration by the Honorable Herbert Dixon of D.C. Superior Court. Randolph was found guilty of Voluntary Manslaughter on March 16, 2009, for his role in the beating death of Caesar Panchem on May 8, 2008.

According to evidence presented at trial, on May 8, 2008, at approximately 2:20 a.m., a government witness was awakened by a loud banging noise and a voice that seemed to be coming from the kitchen area of an apartment next door. The witness recognized the voice as Caesar Panchem's; Panchem was calling someone's name and saying that "this is the last time!" It then sounded as if a person left from the rear door of the apartment and, thereafter, the noises immediately stopped. The witness went to investigate and, from his rear door, saw the decedent lying on his rear stoop, with blood dripping from the back

of his head. The decedent was moving slightly, and making snorting and gargling noises. The witness called 911 and reported what he saw to the police, and then returned to the rear of his building where he noticed the defendant, shirtless, lighting a cigarette. When the defendant noticed the witness, the defendant told him " He's alright! He just needed some tough love!"

Soon thereafter, officer Harold Brown of MPD's Sixth District arrived on the scene. Paramedics in front of the apartment house told Officer Brown that the victim was inside of apartment #1. When Officer Brown entered this apartment, he saw the defendant seated in a chair in the dining room and the decedent, Caesar Panchem, lying on the kitchen floor wearing a neck brace, bleeding from the head and face, and being treated by paramedics. When Officer Brown asked the defendant what had happened, the defendant stated that the decedent had been arguing with an unidentified black female inside the apartment, and that the defendant may have fallen down the steps. At this point, the witness from next door, who had overheard the defendant's statement to Officer Brown, waved Officer Brown into his apartment, where he told him that the defendant was lying, and provided his detailed observations.

Caesar Panchem was transported to Washington Hospital Center and admitted in critical condition for a potentially life threatening head injury. On May 9, 2008, the decedent succumbed to his injuries and was pronounced dead. On May 12, 2008, Dr. Lois Goslinoski performed an autopsy on the decedent and determined that the cause of death was a blunt impact head trauma with skull fractures, sub-dural hemorrhage, cerebral edema and brain contusion, and classified the death as a

homicide. Dr. Goslinoski concluded that the blunt impact trauma on the back of the head was inconsistent with a fall, but was, instead, caused by a striking blow that was sufficient to stun the decedent, preventing him from breaking a fall that resulted in his head injuries.

On May 16, 2008, the defendant was arrested for Second Degree Murder and interviewed. During the interview, the defendant stated that both he and the decedent had been drinking on the rear steps of the decedent's apartment house when the decedent fell backwards down the steps.

Thereafter, while the defendant was incarcerated and awaiting trial, he told a fellow inmate that he had brought a woman to the decedent's apartment, and had given the decedent cocaine in exchange for the use of a bedroom to have sex with the woman. While the defendant was using the bedroom, the decedent started a commotion, and the defendant came out of the bedroom and started arguing with the decedent. During the argument, the defendant struck the decedent on the head, causing him to fall and strike his head against a concrete stoop.

In announcing the sentence, Acting United States Attorney Channing Phillips praised the efforts of the Metropolitan Police Department, including: (1) Violent Crime Branch Detectives Anthony Greene, Robert Cephas, Gus Giannakoulis, Joshua Branson, Chad Howard, Thomas Webb, and James Wilson; (2) MPD Mobile Crime Unit members Gerald Wills, Julius Smith, and Anthony Lozado; and (3) Sixth District officers Harold Brown, Andre Suber, William Hawkins, Richard Moats, and Esteban Eschazabal. Acting U.S. Attorney also commended Dr. Lois Goslinoski,

of the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner of the District of Columbia, and several employees of the U.S. Attorney's Office, including Homicide Section paralegal Alesha Matthews, Homicide Section secretary Mary Doster, and Litigation Support Unit staff members Thomas Royal, Errol Spears, Timothy Linder, Paul Howell and Kimberly Smith. Finally, Acting U.S. Attorney Phillips commended AUSA Mark O'Brien, who worked with the cooperating witness in the case, as well as AUSA Gary Wheeler, who tried the case.